

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

With reference initially to Figures 1-3, the thermal isolation device 10 is constructed of three discrete columns 12, 14 and 16, each formed with respective through holes (or bolt holes) 18, 20 and 22. A plurality of flat plates 24, 26 and 28 are secured to the columns in axially spaced relationship, i.e., axially spaced along the longitudinal axes of the columns.